

# ALSTON & BIRD LLP

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January 4, 2000

**VIA: MESSENGER**

Secretary  
Federal Trade Commission  
Room H-159  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20580

**Re: Advisory Committee on Online Access and Security-Nomination,  
P004807: Thomas E. Crocker**

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wish by this letter to nominate myself for membership in the Federal Trade Commission's Advisory Committee on Online Access and Security. This nomination is presented in original, two copies, and on diskette in Microsoft Word format.

As made clear by the enclosed resume, I am a Partner in the Washington office of Alston & Bird LLP, a large Southeastern law firm based in Atlanta. My practice for the last five years has focused on regulatory and legislative issues involving electronic commerce. My particular specialization is in Internet security issues, including privacy, encryption and digital signatures. The companies that I represent as clients are mainly large, national financial services providers and Internet Service Providers (ISPs). For example, I have played a very active role on behalf of Charles Schwab & Co. (during which I have met with FTC staff on various issues) in the electronic authentication legislation currently pending before Congress. I also am currently counsel to a coalition of Fortune 500 companies which is being formed by General Electric Company to deal with privacy and related issues at the federal and state levels. This coalition should be finalized by February 1. In addition to financial services companies, it consists primarily of traditional brick and mortar companies which are migrating toward major use of the Internet for business-to-business applications and which are seriously concerned about privacy issues. In addition, I have written and lectured extensively on Internet security issues, as shown in the enclosed materials.

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Prior to my involvement in E-commerce practice, I was for the last two decades a recognized expert on bank secrecy and customer confidentiality issues, particularly in the international banking context, and wrote and lectured frequently on those subjects. I therefore have a longstanding and historical perspective on privacy issues, as well as knowledge of the current technologies and legal/policy issues. I also represent major industry players with a commitment to helping shape U.S. policy.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 202-756-3318.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Crocker

TEC:mc  
Enclosures  
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